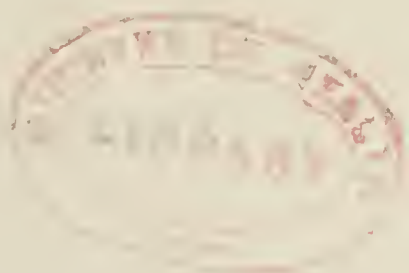


HEALTH
- 4 OCT 1945
C.R.

LIBRARY



OADBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A N N U A L R E P O R T.

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

for the year 1945.

OADBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1945.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my 7th Annual Report on the health of your district.

It is with pleasure that I am able to state that the general health of the population has remained satisfactory, and that it shows an improvement as compared with both the war and pre-war years.

The population trend again shows a tendency to increase, and there can be little doubt that when more houses become available, there will be a further and very considerable increase in the population of the district.

Although the birth rate of 16.8 shows a decrease as compared with 1944, it remains higher than the comparable rate for the whole of England and Wales. A disturbing factor, however, is the increase in the number of illegitimate births in Oadby.

The death rate of 11.1 is rather lower than that of 11.4 for the whole of England and Wales, and it is pleasing to note that there were no deaths from puerperal causes, and no deaths in infants under 1 year of age.

With the exception of measles, the incidence of infectious diseases was low, and it is particularly satisfying to note that there were no true cases of diphtheria. Every effort continues to be made to ensure that immunisation is offered to the parents of all children.

The year 1945 saw the termination of the Government evacuation scheme, and the consequent closure of the Oadby Frith Ante-Natal Hostel, and the County Council Emergency Maternity Unit at 'The Wayside'. At the former, 1,008 expectant mothers were cared for, and at the latter 1,724 babies were born during the war years. In comparison with its size, the contribution which Oadby made towards assisting the population of the less fortunate areas was a considerable one.

In conclusion I wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and members of the Committee, and the officers and staff of the Council for the willing support they have given me during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

ALEC. E. MARTIN, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

<u>Area in acres</u>	2,529
<u>No. of inhabited houses</u> (end of 1945) according to rate books	1,714
<u>Rateable Value</u> , 1st. April, 1945	£44,180
Sum represented by a penny rate	£178

POPULATION.

1945 Registrar General's estimate.....	5,407
1931 Census, adjusted for subsequent changes in boundary	5,766.

TABLE showing changes in population during
the past ten years:-

1936.....	5231	1941 a).....	5811
1937.....	5203	b).....	
1938.....	5242	1942 a).....	5507
1939 a).....	5345	b).....	
b).....	5409	1943.....	5354
1940 a).....	5719	1944.....	5381
b).....		1945.....	5407

a = population appropriate to calculation
of birth rate.

b = population appropriate to calculation
of death rate.

BIRTHS:-

		<u>1944.</u>	<u>1945.</u>
<u>Live Births.</u>	Legitimate...		
	Male	53	42
	Female	54	38
	Total	107	80
	Illegitimate.		
	Male	2	3
	Female	5	8
	Total	7	11
	Total live births.....		
	Male	55	45
	Female	59	46
	Total	114	91
<u>Stillbirths.</u>	Legitimate...		
	Male	Nil	2
	Female	Nil	1
	Total	Nil	3
	Illegitimate.		
	Male	Nil	Nil
	Female	Nil	Nil
	Total	Nil	Nil.
	Total still- births.....		
	Male	Nil	2
	Female	Nil	1
	Total	Nil	3

<u>Birthrate per 1,000 estimated population:-</u>	<u>1944</u>	<u>1945.</u>
Oadby.....	21.2	16.8
England & Wales.....	17.6	16.1

<u>Illegitimate birthrate per 1,000 live births:-</u>		
Oadby.....	61.	121.

<u>Stillbirths:- Rate per 1,000 estimated population:-</u>		
Oadby.....	0.50	0.46

TABLE showing numbers of births and birth rates during the past ten years.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>No. of births.</u> <u>Oadby</u>			<u>Birth rate per</u> <u>1,000 population.</u>		
	<u>Leg- itimate</u>	<u>Illeg- itimate</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Oadby.</u>	<u>Leicester- shire</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
1936	63	Nil	63	12.0	14.8	14.8
1937	59	2	61	11.7	14.9	14.9
1938	77	3	80	15.2	15.3	15.1
1939	60	4	64	12.0	15.0	15.0
1940	68	3	71	12.4	15.1	14.6
1941	75	1	76	13.0	14.6	14.2
1942	74	4	78	14.2	17.3	15.8
1943	82	4	86	16.1	19.6	16.5
1944	107	7	114	21.2	21.1	17.6
1945	80	11	91	16.8		16.1

<u>DEATHS:-</u>	<u>1944</u>	<u>1945</u>
<u>Total number of deaths.....</u>		
Male	28	31
Female	27	29
Total	55	60

<u>Death rate per 1,000 estimated population:-</u>		
Oadby.....	10.2	11.1
England & Wales.....	11.6	11.4

Death rate (corrected for age and sex distribution of population in Oadby)	Not available.
---	----------------

Deaths from puerperal causes:-

No. of deaths:-		
Puerperal sepsis...	Nil	Nil
Other puerperal causes	1	Nil.

Puerperal mortality rate for England & Wales per 1,000 live and still births..	1.93	1.79
--	------	------

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age:-

Number of deaths.....	4	Nil
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births, Oadby.....	34	Nil
England & Wales.....	46	46

Total Deaths, classified according to age and sex:-

<u>Age Group.</u>	<u>1944</u>		<u>1945.</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year of age.....	4	-	-	-
Over 1 year and under 5 years.....	-	-	1	-
" 5 years " " 10 "	-	-	1	-
" 10 " " " 15 "	-	-	-	-
" 15 " " " 25 "	-	-	1	1
" 25 " " " 35 "	-	1	-	1
" 35 " " " 45 "	3	1	-	2
" 45 " " " 55 "	1	3	1	2
" 55 " " " 65 "	8	2	10	4
" 65 " " " 75 "	5	8	7	5
" 75 " " " 85 "	5	9	8	13
" 85 years.....	2	2	2	1
Total deaths.	28	27	31	29

Causes of Death:-

<u>Registrar General's classification:-</u>	<u>1944</u>			<u>1945.</u>		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers...	-	-	-	-	-	-
2. Cerebro-spinal fever.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Scarlet fever.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Whooping cough.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Diphtheria.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	-	-	-	-	3	3
7. Tuberculosis, other.....	-	-	-	1	-	1
8. Syphilitic diseases.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Influenza.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
10. Measles.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
11. Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
12. Acute encephalitis.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
13. Cancer bucal cavity & oesophagus(m) uterus(f).....	-	-	-	-	1	1
14. Cancer of stomach & duodenum.....	3	2	5	1	1	2
15. Cancer of breast.....	-	2	2	-	1	1
16. Cancer, all other sites.....	2	1	3	7	1	8
17. Diabetes.....	-	-	-	-	1	1
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions...	5	3	8	7	4	11
19. Heart disease.....	4	9	13	7	9	16
20. Other circulatory diseases.....	-	1	1	2	2	4
21. Bronchitis.....	1	3	4	1	2	3
22. Pneumonia.....	-	1	1	2	-	2
23. Other respiratory diseases.....	3	-	3	-	-	-
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age).	1	-	1	-	-	-
26. Appendicitis.....	-	-	-	1	-	1
27. Other digestive diseases.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
28. Nephritis.....	1	1	2	1	-	1
29. Puerperal & post abortion sepsis.	-	-	-	-	-	-
30. Other maternal causes.....	-	1	1	-	-	-
31. Premature birth.....	1	-	1	-	-	-
32. Congenital malformation, birth injuries, infantile diseases....	1	-	1	-	-	-
33. Suicide.....	1	-	1	-	-	-
34. Road traffic accidents.....	1	-	1	-	-	-
35. Other violent causes.....	-	1	1	-	-	-
36. All other causes.....	4	2	6	1	4	5
Total deaths....	28	27	55	31	29	60



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29933481>

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

I am indebted to the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. G. Edgar Fryer, for the following information upon the sanitary circumstances of the area:-

Water Supply:-

The Leicester Corporation water mains are laid throughout the area, and supply all except a few outlying premises. The water is of an excellent quality in all respects.

- | | |
|--|-------|
| (a) No. of dwelling-houses having a piped water supply laid into the houses..... | 1639. |
| Population concerned in (a) | 5254. |
| (b) No. of dwelling-houses supplied from taps in yards outside the houses, all taps being Leicester City supply..... | 57 |
| (c) No. of dwelling-houses which have access to the Leicester City supply by means of taps fixed at the end of the road..... | 11 |
| Population concerned in (b) & (c)..... | 213 |
| (d) No. of dwelling-houses not connected with public supply, consisting of outlying farms supplied from wells..... | 8 |

Drainage and Sewage:-

The sewage is dealt with at the Council's Sewage Farm.

During the year an extension of the foul and storm water sewers has been carried out on the Highcroft Building Estate, off the Glen Road, and foul and storm water sewers are in course of construction on the Council Housing Estate, Wigston Road.

On the 31st. December there were 20 cesspools in the district, one cesspool having been constructed during the year.

Closet Accomodation:-

Approximate numbers in the district:-

- | | |
|------------------------|-------|
| (a) Privies..... | Nil. |
| (b) Pail closets..... | 33. |
| (c) Water closets..... | 1731. |

Two pail closets were converted to water closets during the year.

Public Cleansing:-

House refuse is collected fortnightly by the council's staff, and disposal is by means of controlled tipping on a low level field at the sewage disposal works.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area:-

Total no. of complaints received during the year... 13.
Total no. of defects or nuisances discovered..... 11.

Total no. of inspections made:-

Animal keeping.....	10
Bakehouses.....	8
Dairies and cowsheds.....	19
Drainage works.....	56
Dwelling-houses (all purposes).....	301
Food premises.....	17
Rats and mice destruction.....	35
Refuse collection and disposal.....	70
Schools.....	2
Shops.....	10
Slaughter-house and meat inspections.....	75
Verminous premises and scabies.....	Nil
Workshops etc.....	5
Water supplies.....	4
Other inspections.....	187

Total inspections..... 799

Notices served during the year:-

Preliminary:-

Housing. Public Health.

Outstanding on 1st. Jan.....	1	Nil.
Issued during the year.....	15	79
Complied with during year...	7	79
Statutory action necessary..	2	1
Outstanding on 31st Dec.....	8	Nil

Statutory:-

Outstanding on 1st. Jan.....	Nil	Nil
Issued during the year.....	2	1
Complied with during year...	2	1
Outstanding on 31st Dec.....	Nil	Nil.

No summary action was taken during the year.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-laws or Regulations:-

There are no common lodging houses. No offensive trade is established and there is no canal within the area. There are no tents or vans used as dwellings.

Camping Sites:- There are no camping sites in the area, and no licenses have been issued.

Eradication of Bed Bugs:- No cases of infestation have come under observation.

Schools:- The two county schools, senior and junior, are modern buildings, with sound sanitation, good drainage and the public water supply.

Shops:- No action was taken during the year under the provisions of the Shops Act 1934.

Swimming Baths:- There is one small swimming bath owned by the Council. This was requisitioned during the war and has not yet been re-opened.

H O U S I N G.

(1) New Houses:-

Total no. of applications for council houses at the end of the year.....	234.
Programme of new houses to be erected:-	
Pre-fabricated houses.....	Nil.
Permanent houses, 1st year.....	100
2nd year.....	125.
Number of houses erected during the year by private enterprise.....	1

(2) Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the year:-

(a) i. Total no. of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).....	301
ii. No. of inspections made for this purpose..	301.
(b) i. No. of dwelling-houses (including those above) inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 & 1932.....	Nil
ii. No. of inspections made for this purpose..	Nil
(c) No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human inhabitation....	Nil
(d) No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human inhabitation....	22

(3) Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notice.

No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or its officers.....	14
---	----

(4) Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

(a) <u>Proceedings under sections 9, 10 & 16 of the Housing Act 1936:-</u>	
i. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs...	2
ii. No of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice,	
a. by owners.....	2
b. by local authority in default of owners.....	Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.....	Nil
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act 1936.....	Nil
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936.....	Nil.

(5) Housing Act 1936 - Overcrowding:-

(a) i. No. of dwellings reported overcrowded at the end of the year.....	4
ii. No. of families dwelling therein.....	4
iii. No. of persons dwelling therein.....	25
(b) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year.....	5
(c) i. No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.....	1
ii. No. of persons concerned in such cases....	3
(d) Cases where dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority has taken steps for its abatement...	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk:-

(1) Retailers, other than cow-keepers:-	
Number on register.....	19
Number of inspections of premises.....	10
Number of contraventions found.....	Nil
(2) Producers, including those who retail milk:-	
Number on register.....	9
Number of inspections made.....	19
Number of contraventions outstanding from previous year.....	Nil
Number of contraventions found during the year.....	3
Number of contraventions remedied.....	3
Number of contraventions outstanding on December 31st.	Nil

Of the three contraventions found during the year, one was concerned with cleansing, and two with structural alterations.

Meat and Other Foods:-

There are no regional slaughter-houses in the district, and the only animals slaughtered for food during the year were 75 pigs. All the carcasses were examined, and none was condemned.

LABORATORY REPORT.

The following examinations were carried out in the County Laboratory:-

Sputa for tuberculosis.....	16
Milk examinations, bacteriological.....	9
Swabs for diphtheria.....	8
Urine, general and bacteriological.....	8
Urine for tuberculosis.....	8
Sewage and water analyses.....	7
Blood for Wassermann test.....	3
Films for gonococci.....	1
Milk for phosphatase test.....	1
Miscellaneous.....	4
Total.....	65

Table showing notifications of infectious diseases

Disease	Under 1 year	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	35-	45-	65-	Not known	Total	Deaths
Measles	1	14	19	39	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	76	
Scarlet fever	-	-	2	2	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	7	
Whooping cough	1	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	
Pneumonia	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	3	-	7	2
Tubercular meningitis	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1

Table showing particulars of new cases and deaths from tuberculosis.

Age Group.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
15-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
25-	2	2	1	-	-	2	-	-
45-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Prevention of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

General Review.

The common infectious diseases of children - measles, scarlet fever and whooping-cough - were rather more prevalent during 1945 than previously. A total of 75 cases of measles was notified, and it is probable that a considerable number of un-notified cases also occurred. The climax of the measles epidemic came at the beginning of February, and out of the 75 notified cases, 45 occurred during the first three months of the year.

Diphtheria and Diphtheria Immunisation.

No cases of diphtheria occurred during the year. Regular immunisation clinics are held each month, and on 31st. December it was estimated that 798 children had been immunised out of a total population of 1,164 children under 15 years of age.

Diphtheria in Oadby is now a rare disease, and no death has occurred during the last 20 years, yet this fact must not be used as an argument for complacency, for other districts have not been so fortunate. Every effort is made to ensure that immunisation is offered to the parent of each child at the end of the first year of its life, and again when the child first enters an infant school.

Tuberculosis.

A total of eight cases was notified during the year; six of which were pulmonary and two non-pulmonary.

On 31st. December there was a total of 27 notified cases of pulmonary and six non-pulmonary tuberculosis on the register.

Four deaths occurred during the year, two from pulmonary and two from non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

EVACUATION.

With the termination of the Government evacuation scheme, the Oadby Frith Ante-Natal Hostel was closed at the end of October 1945. The number of expectant mothers admitted during the year was 178, and since the hostel opened in April 1942, 1,008 mothers have been cared for. During the whole of this period, Mrs. Ventriss, as matron, was in charge, and a continuous happy atmosphere prevailed.

The Oadby Frith Ante-Natal Hostel was administered by the Urban District Council in close co-operation with the County Council Emergency Maternity Unit at "The Wayside", Oadby. This establishment was also closed during the autumn of 1945, 251 expectant mothers having been admitted and 245 babies born during the year. During the whole period in which "The Wayside" was open, 1,724 babies were born.

